

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 03892 280124Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPTA-02 HA-05 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /088 W
-----111613 290049Z /15

R 272015Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9019

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

RUT TD/AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA 4880

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 3892

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, PINR, PN, OAS, ES

SUBJECT: OAS APPOINTMENT OF FORMER PRESIDENT MOLINA AS ELECTIONS

OBSERVER: FOX IS SENT TO GUARD CHICKEN COOP

1. MANY EYEBROWS HAVE BEEN RAISED IN SAN SALVADOR OVER THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE LOCAL PRESS THAT EX-PRESIDENT (1972-1977) COL. ARTURO ARMANDO MOLINA HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE OAS AS ONE OF THE OBSERVERS OF THE ELECTIONS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE AUGUST 6 IN PANAMA. THE 1972 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS THAT RESULTED IN MOLINA'S TAKING OFFICE ARE CONSIDERED BY MANY INFORMED PEOPLE TO HAVE BEEN "FRAUGHT WITH FRAUD" AND THE 1977 ELECTION OVER WHICH HE PRESIDED HAS RAISED SOME QUESTION ON ITS OWN. WHEN ASKED BY A LOCAL NEWSPAPER REPORTER IF HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE OAS DESIGNATION AS AN ELECTIONS OBSERVER CONFLICTED WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT HE MADE BEFORE LEAVING OFFICE IN 1977 THAT HE WOULD NOT ENGAGE IN ANY FURTHER POLITICAL ACTIVITY, MOLINA REPLIED: "I HONESTLY THINK THAT THIS IS AN
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EXCELLENT FIELD IN WHICH TO CONTINUE COMPLYING WITH
MY DUTY AS A SALVADORAN CITIZEN."

2. WHILE MANY CAN DISPUTE THE PROPRIETY OF NAMING
MOLINA AS AN OAS ELECTIONS OBSERVER, IT CAN BE READILY
ARGUED THAT BASED ON HIS PAST EXPERIENCE, MOLINA AT
LEAST WILL KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN TERMS OF POSSIBLE

FRAUD IN THE PANAMANIAN ELECTIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND, OTHERS WOULD
SAY HE WOULD NOT BE AWARE OF WHAT REALLY CONSTITUTES FREE AND
FAIR ELECTIONS.
DEVINE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANS03892
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780311-0100
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780714/aaaaalgx.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a62fd76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1867057
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OAS APPOINTMENT OF FORMER PRESIDENT MOLINA AS ELECTIONS OBSERVER: FOX IS SENT TO GUARD CHICKEN COOP
TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, PINR, PN, ES, OAS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a62fd76b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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